APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER
SHORTLEDGE, THOMAS E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2654	

DATE MAILED: 12/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/829,961	TAVOR, ONN
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thomas E. Shortledge	2654	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _30 September 2005_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-12 and 14-21_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-6,8,9,14 and 16-21_ is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) _7,10-12 and 15_ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This communication is in response to Remarks filed 09/30/2005.

2.   Claims 1-12 and 14-21 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 18, and 21 are

independent. Claim 13 is canceled.

3.   Claims 3 and 19 have been amended.

Response to Arguments

4.   Applicant's arguments, see Remarks filed 09/30/2005, with respect to the

rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-12 and 14-21 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a

new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Maimon et al. (6,374,270).

Claim Objections

5.   Claims 7, 10-12 and 15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base

claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the

limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7.   Claims 1-3, 14, 18, 19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being

anticipated by Maimon et al. (6,374,270).

        As to claims 1, 18 and 21, Maimon et al. teach:

        a computer based method for supplying comparative information about a least

two specified items out of a group of items belonging to any one category, each item of

the group having a corresponding data entry in the computer's storage *(a group*

database that is statistically analyzed to create a related companies analysis, where

each company has information stored within the database, col. 5, lines 45-50), the

method comprising: retrieving from storage data entries corresponding to the specified

items, among said retrieved entries comparing information associated with like topics

(receiving information about each topic from the specified field, col. 6, lines 32-43); and

constructing one or more natural language sentences that reflect results of said

retrieving and said comparing *(constructing an abstract from one or more predefined*

templates, col. 6, lines 60-64); providing a plurality of natural language sentence

templates, whereby each possible combination of a topic and category of items

associated with a particular template *(constructing an abstract containing numerous sentences, where each sentence is created from a matching template, and where a matrix is used to create each possible combination, col. 6, lines 55-64)*; and inserting names, topics and values resulting from said comparing into appropriate respective fields in an appropriate one of said templates *(inserting names, topics, and values into the respective fields within the matching template, col. 6, lines 45-55)*.

As to claim 2, Maimon et al. teach there are also specified topics and said comparing is confined to the specified topics (specifying topics to be compared, col. 6, liens 32-43).

As to claims 3 and 19, Maimon et al. teach not all stored data entries of any group necessarily include identical topics and said comparing includes comparing values associated with like topics, if any (comparing items within a matrix to be used to create the sentences, col. 5, line 48-54).

As to claim 14, Maimon et al. teach combing a plurality of said statements having at least one item in common into a sentence, using connective words appropriate to the comparison-based relation between the respective statements (combining the created comparison statements into sentences and then into an abstract, col. 6, lines 50-63).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

9.   Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Maimon et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kelman et al.

(2004/0093255).

As to claim 4, Maimon et al. does not teach:

finding within said t least two of the retrieved entries any values that are mutually

equal, grouping all items that correspond to any thus identified value together as a

similarity group, noting their names and associating said group with said common topic

and with said equal value; nor

if no equal values are found, noting the names and values of all corresponding

items, in association with said common topic.

However, Kelman et al. teach for any topic common to at least two of the

received entries –

finding within said at least two of the retrieved entries any values that are

mutually equal, grouping all items that correspond to any thus identified value together

as a similarity group, noting their names and associating said group with said common

topic (feature) and with said equal value (a matrix is used to compare the scores of each of the products for each of the features, products that have matching features are then grouped together and their scores are turned into a comparison document within the supporting qualitative information. The comparison document is able to examine the scores for each product, and state those product that have scored equally, where the comparison document states the names of each product, and the feature compared, page 5, paragraph 68-70, and figures 3, and 4); and

if no equal values are found, noting the names and values of all corresponding items, in association with said common topic (the comparison document of fig. 4 is able to find those features where the products scored differently, and create a document relating those products to each other, stating which scored higher within the selected feature, page 5, paragraph 68-70, and figures 3, and 4).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teaches of Maimon et al. and the methods of Kelman et al. to create a system able to generate highly context-specific correspondence, white papers, qualification tools, sales strategy work-sheets, and competitive matrices, as taught by Kelman et al. (page 1, paragraph 6).

As to claim 5, Maimon et al. teach constructing a natural language statement for each of said common topic which reflects respective results of substep (i) or substep (ii) (creating an abstract, containing numerous sentences, created from templates, col. 6, lines 55-63).

As to claim 6, Maimon et al. do no teach finding in the corresponding retrieved entry one or more values, if any, associated with the respective topic, that are different from the respective common value and noting any thus found value in association with the respective name and the respective topic; and constructing a natural language statement that includes the name and values noted in substep (iii) and appending it to the statement that reflects results of substep (i) with respect to the noted topic.

However, Kelman et al. teach for any item in any similarity group – finding in the corresponding retrieved entry one or more values, if any, associated with the respective topic, that are different from the respective common value and noting any thus found value in association with the respective name and the respective topic; and constructing a natural language statement that includes the name and values noted in substep (iii) and appending it to the statement that reflects results of substep (i) with respect to the noted topic, (Table 1 shows similarity groups within different subranges of a topic, where each of the similarity groups is made up of a range of values. Within each similarity group, the scores are related to each other and a comparison statement is created based on the relation, (page 4, paragraph 61-63). The comparison statement necessarily finds the products within a certain similarity group that have different values).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teaches of Maimon et al. and the methods of Kelman et al. to create a system able to generate highly context-specific

correspondence, white papers, qualification tools, sales strategy work-sheets, and

competitive matrices, as taught by Kelman et al. (page 1, paragraph 6).

10.   Claims 8, 9, 17 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Maimon et al. as applied to claims 1 and 18 above, and further in

view of Kelman et al.

As to claims 8 and 20 Maimon et al. do not teach:

any topic is associated with a range of values, extending between two extreme

values, and with a numerical scale whose minimum and maximum values correspond to

respective extreme values of the range, such a topic being a fuzzy topic;

in any data entry the information associated with any fuzzy topic includes a

position number within the respective scale, which number corresponds to a value

within the respective range; nor

said comparing includes, with respect to any fuzzy topic, comparing the

respective position numbers.

However, Kelman et al. teach any topic is associated with a range of values,

extending between two extreme values, and with a numerical scale whose minimum

and maximum values correspond to respective extreme values of the range, such a

topic being a fuzzy topic, (Table 1 shows the process of creating a range of values for

any given topic, creating minimum and maximum values, with extreme values, page 4,

paragraph 62);

in any data entry the information associated with any fuzzy topic includes a

position number within the respective scale, which number corresponds to a value

within the respective range (Table 1, shows a range of values, where each values

corresponds to a certain output graphic and remark, page 4, paragraph 62); and

said comparing includes, with respect to any fuzzy topic, comparing the

respective position numbers (the score is compared against the table, and a

significance statement is applied based on that comparison, page 4, paragraphs 62 and

63).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to combine the teaches of Maimon et al. and the methods of

Kelman et al. to create a system able to generate highly context-specific

correspondence, white papers, qualification tools, sales strategy work-sheets, and

competitive matrices, as taught by Kelman et al. (page 1, paragraph 6).

As to claim 9, Maimon et al. do not teach finding among the said retrieved entries

the highest and lowest position values, dividing the values between them into one or

more identified subranges, associating each item with one of said subranges according

to the corresponding position value and grouping all items according to their associated

subranges, noting their respective names and noting for each group its respective

subrange and the common topic.

However, Kelman et al. teach finding among the said retrieved entries the

highest and lowest position values, dividing the values between them into one or more

identified subranges, associating each item with one of said subranges according to the

corresponding position value and grouping all items according to their associated

subranges, noting their respective names and noting for each group its respective

subrange and the common topic, (Table 1 shoes a topic that has been divided into 3

separate value subranges, where each subrange leads to a different output. The

products can them be compared based on the subranges, and the significance remarks

linked to each of the subranges, where a competitive statement can be created, which

would necessarily include the names, and scores of each product within that feature,

page 4, paragraph 62, and 63).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to combine the teaches of Maimon et al. and the methods of

Kelman et al. to create a system able to generate highly context-specific

correspondence, white papers, qualification tools, sales strategy work-sheets, and

competitive matrices, as taught by Kelman et al. (page 1, paragraph 6).

As to claim 17, Maimon et al. teach a name (IBM, col. 6, lines 35-38), at least

one topic, at least one of which is a fuzzy topic (company, col. 6, lines 30-35).

Maimon et al. do not each associated with any fuzzy topic, a position number.

However, Kelman et al. teach associated with any fuzzy topic, a position number,

(a computer system on which a matrix is created, wherein the matrix includes a

comparison of products by features, and has the ability to create a topic that is broken

down into ranges, where a score is given to each product for each feature, and the

score is compared to the subranges of the topic, (page 4, paragraphs 60-63). It would

be necessary that since the data gained from the matrix is then converted into a

comparison document, the data is stored on the computer system).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to combine the teaches of Maimon et al. and the methods of

Kelman et al. to create a system able to generate highly context-specific

correspondence, white papers, qualification tools, sales strategy work-sheets, and

competitive matrices, as taught by Kelman et al. (page 1, paragraph 6).

11.   Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maimon

et al. as applied to claim 14 above, and further in view of Kelman et al.

As to claim 16, Maimon et al. do not teach at least one topic is fuzzy and at least

one topic has one or more values associated therewith and wherein said plurality of

statements includes at least one statement relating to a fuzzy topic and at least one

statement relating to one or more values

However, Kelman et al. teach at least one topic is fuzzy and at least one topic

has one or more values associated therewith and wherein said plurality of statements

includes at least one statement relating to a fuzzy topic and at least one statement

relating to one or more values, (Table 1 represents a topic divided into subranges,

where each range of values is associated with a statement describing that subrange,

page 4, paragraph 63).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to combine the teaches of Maimon et al. and the methods of

Kelman et al. to create a system able to generate highly context-specific

correspondence, white papers, qualification tools, sales strategy work-sheets, and

competitive matrices, as taught by Kelman et al. (page 1, paragraph 6).

Allowable Subject Matter

12.   The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject

matter:

As to claim 7, Maimon et al. teach using natural language sentence templates to

create a group of sentences, forming an abstract. The sentences are created from a

database of comparative information, and the abstract is used to convey information

drawn from the comparisons. However, Maimon et al. do not teach identifying any topic

that is no uncommon to any two or more of the retrieved entries, nor creating a natural

language statement that includes the name, topic, and values of the uncommon entries.

As to claim 10, Maimon et al. teach using natural language sentence templates

to create a group of sentences, forming an abstract. The sentences are created from a

database of comparative information, and the abstract is used to convey information

drawn from the comparisons. However, Maimon et al. do not teach any fuzzy topic is

further associated with a set of relational words, appropriate to its range of values, and wherein said constructing includes constructing, for any noted topic, natural language statements containing noted names, and relational words that reflect positions of respective noted subranges relative to each other or relative to said highest and lowest position values or relative to said scale.

As to claim 15, Maimon et al. teach using natural language sentence templates to create a group of sentences, forming an abstract. The sentences are created from a database of comparative information, and the abstract is used to convey information drawn from the comparisons. However, Maimon et al. do not teach providing a library of connective phrases, selecting one or more phrases from said library at random, nor concatenating a plurality of sentences that relate to a common category, whereby they are augmented by said selected phrases.

Claims 11 and 12 would also be allowable since they depend on above indicated claims.

Conclusion

13.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892.
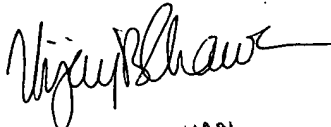
14.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Thomas E. Shortledge whose telephone number is

(571)272-7612. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on (571)272-7602. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-

273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

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Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TS

12/16/2005

VIJAY CHAWAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER